TOP OF THE HILL

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Underground, Roosters, Six Flags: The Atlanta Trek

by Andrew Cho

Although we eighth graders arrived at school early on April 2nd, we were not concerned with academic subjects that day. Neither the river system nor the terrorist activity in Sudan seemed important considering what we were about to experience. All we could think about was the Atlanta trip, the treat we had been waiting for so long. Although our trip started with pouring rain and tardy buses, we had an extremely fun experience in Atlanta. On our first day, we went to Underground Atlanta, where we bought tacky souvenirs, watched the eighth grade lacrosse team play the "Roosters," and spent our evening indulging ourselves in games and refreshments at ESPN Zone. The game against the Roosters was an exciting one with the Roosters barely beating us after a triple overtime. The time at ESPN Zone was definitely the highlight of the day. Is there anything better than relieving stress by playing games with your buddies? On the second day of the trip, we went paint-balling, and when the Braves game was cancelled due to rain, we went bowling. Playing paint-ball was a totally new, sensational experience for many of us, and we still remember the thrill of shooting Mr. Woolsey, Mr. Cooper, Mr.

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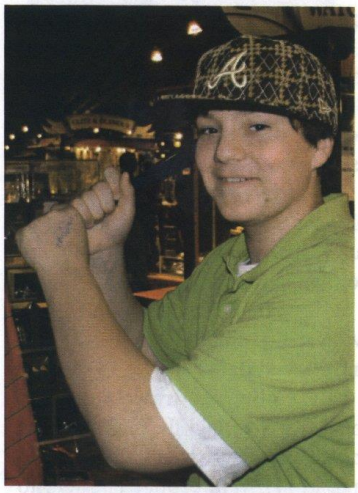

Slugger Hagar

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ATLANTA

McGugin, and Mr. Spiegl. The trip ended with a fun visit to Six Flags. The eighth graders had a great time in Atlanta, and we will always remember the fun of being with each other. The trip was especially memorable to me because it was my last fun experience with my friends before leaving MBA. Here are some of the comments made by eighth graders on the trip:

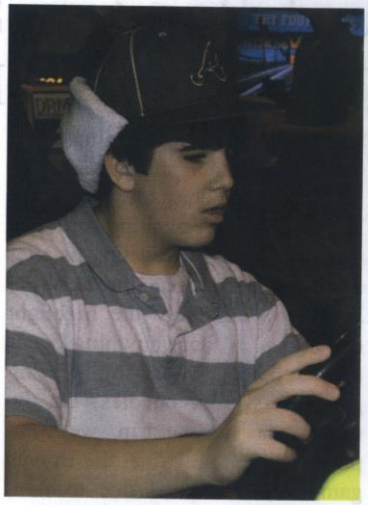
Jack Whitson: I thought the best part of the Atlanta trip was Six Flags. It was a lot of fun, and because of the rain, the park was not as crowded as it usually is.

Matt Anderson: I thought playing paintball in the woods was fun because it simulated modern combat.

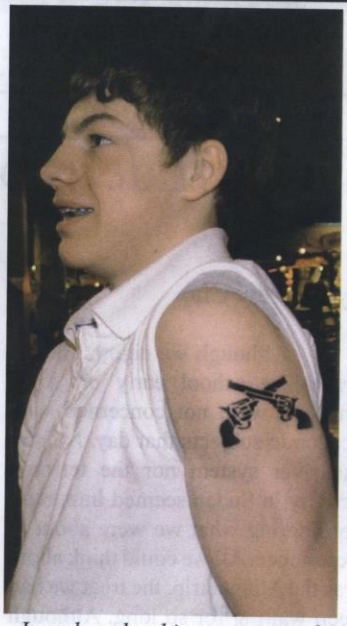
Will Stewart: Paintball. It was the first time I had ever done it, and I loved it.

Colby McBride: I enjoyed the day at Six Flags the most because there were just so many things to do and so many fun roller coasters to ride. My favorite roller coaster was probably Goliath.

Daniel Bellet: Mr. Spiegl cheering at the lacrosse game was awesome.



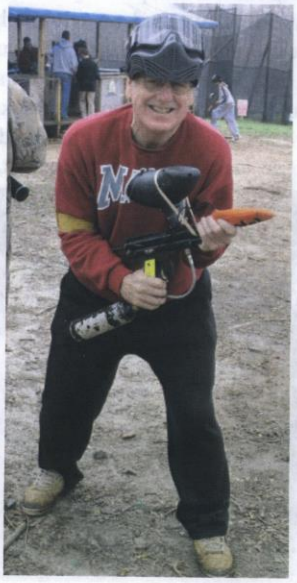
Jake: Goofiest Hat Award



Joseph makes his mama proud.

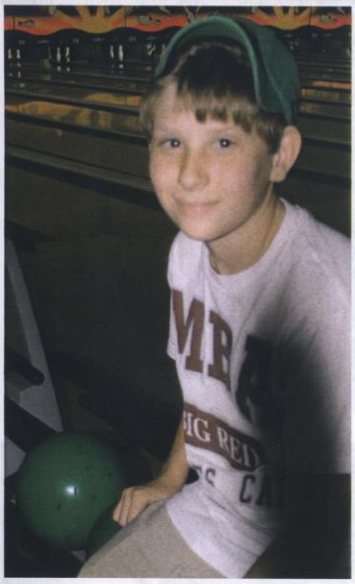
MBA battles the Roosters.

Palmer: Debonair Hat Award

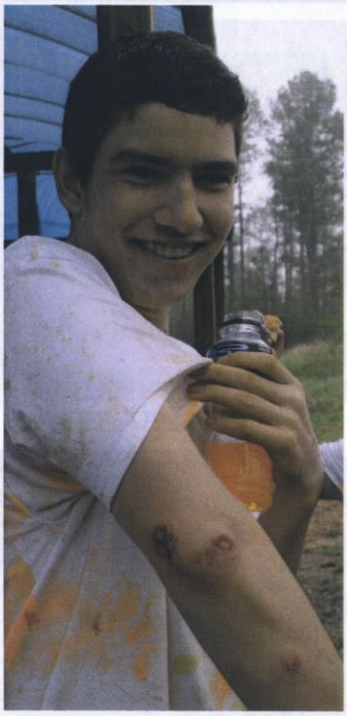


Mr. Woolsey on the attack

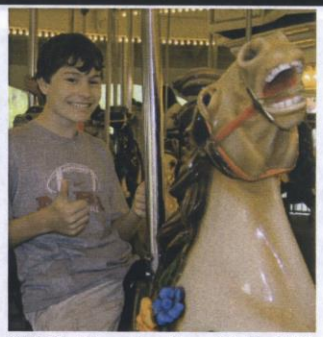
ATLANTA



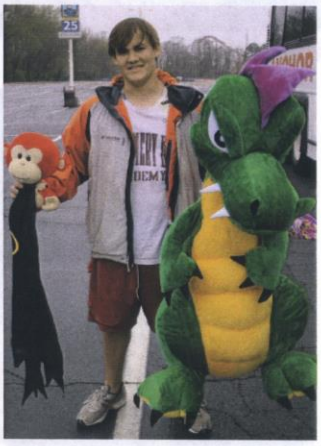
Greylon is master of the bowling alley.



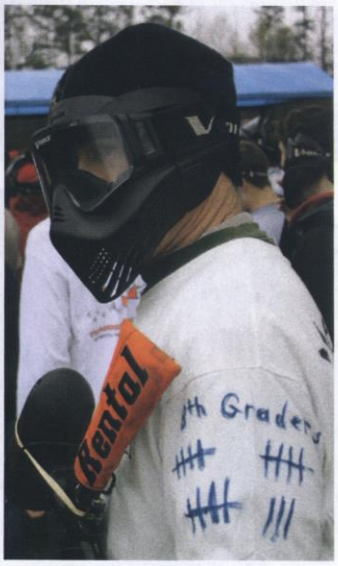
Kevin gets the Worst Wound Award.



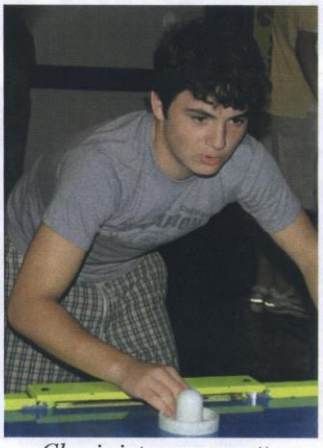
"Well, it's safer than Goliath!"



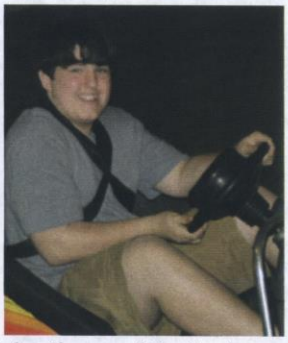
James makes some new friends at Six Flags.



Mr. Spiegl's paintball mission: Destroy!!



Clay is intense no matter what sport.

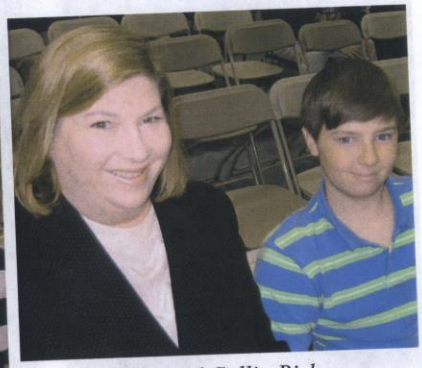


John dreams of the day he gets his real license.

BREAKFAST. . .

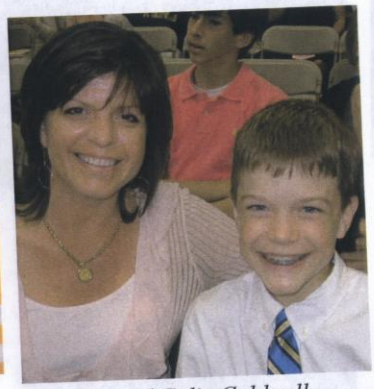
Beth and Will Stephenson

Cyndi and Michael Piana



Molly and Collin Bishop

Deanne and Chris Norman

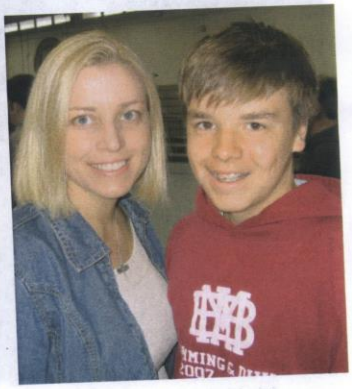


Maria and Colin Caldwell

Drew and Alison Davis

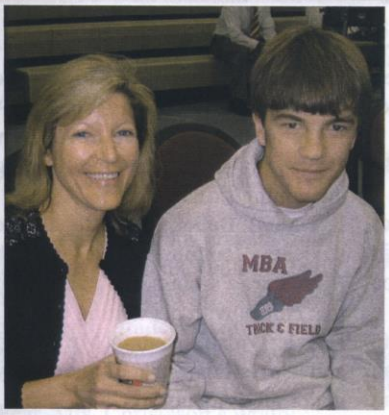
Allyson and McKay Proctor

James and Melinda Higgins



Michelle and Aaron Ardisson

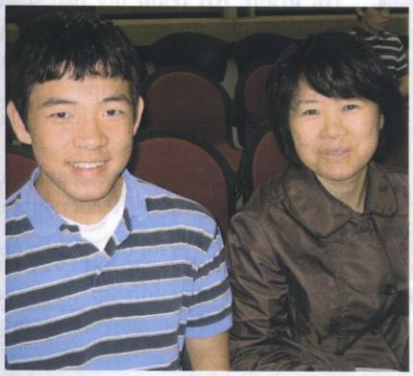
WITH MOM



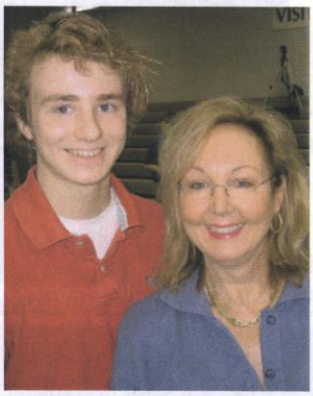
Faye and Chris Meluch

Myles and Lauren Anderson

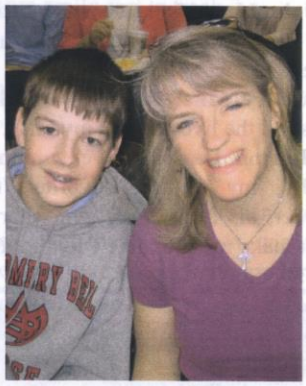
Candace and Colby McBride



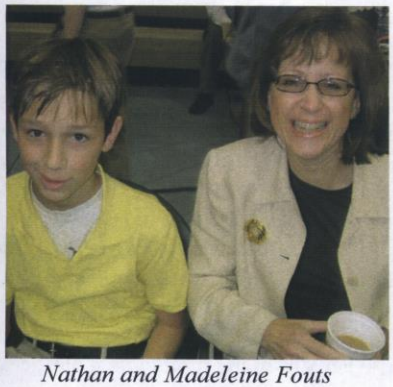
Zach and Mingya Chen



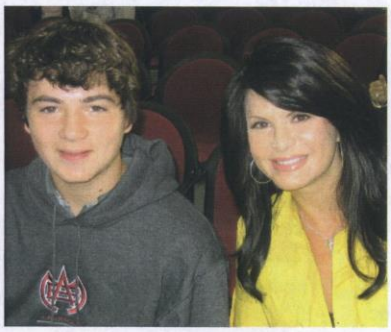
Adam Cornett and Betty Burton



David and Faye Maynard



Nathan and Madeleine Fouts



Clay Cauble and Christy McClung

Lisa and Baker Swain

Last Will and Testament

I, **Baker Swain**, leave to **Jack Benton** my amazing goalie skills and the ability to shut a team out.

I, **Jake McDonald**, leave to **Todd Baker** the 7th and 8th grade FPC church-ball team.

I, **Aidan Davis**, leave to **Christian Sargent** my smart aleckness and ability to annoy all 7th graders.

I, **Winn Van Cleave**, leave to **Mr. Anderson** my Vanderbilt basketball season tickets. I hope he will heckle **Mr. Woolsey** when he messes up the shot clock again.

I, **Henry Richardson**, leave to **Mr. Woolsey** peaches and cream.

I, **John Morphis**, leave to **Dr. Seay** my all-in-good-fun jokes about his age.

I, **Conry Miler**, leave to **Brooks Best** all the livestock on my farm.

I, **Barton Davies**, leave to **John Tully**, my all-time favorite 7th grader, his extra-small gym shorts that make me look like I live in the 70's.

I, **Alex Hagar**, leave to **Jackson Crook** control of the Junior School and all my worldly possessions.

I, **Marshall Sorenson**, leave to **Zach Waterman** the ability to scare rising 7th graders out of their minds.

I, **Andrew Cho**, leave to **Tom Bu** and **Hunter Tidwell** my intense "mathletic" ability.

I, **Preston Evans**, leave to **Hayden Deakins** the ability to just be more awesome at everything than anyone else.

I, **Hugh Wells**, leave to **Lawson Factor** the job of study hall sleep watcher.

I, **Will Narramore**, leave to **Ryan Flack** my incredible good looks.

I, **George Preston**, leave to **Mrs. Cherie Roberts** the Boston Red Sox, Big Poppy, and the Coke factory.

I, **Joe Scherrer**, leave to **Tom Bu** my awesome MathCounts skillz!

I, **Joseph Barry**, leave to **James Higgins** and **Drew Davis** leadership of Junior Schoolers from Horseshoe Bend.

I, **Holt Akers-Campbell**, leave to **Jody Gorham** the ability to lead the fast lane at Junior School swim practice.

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I, **Alex Kohls**, leave to **Brooks Best** the captain of the A baseball team and some sunflower seeds so he will stop laughing all the time.

I, **Roe Moore**, leave to **Mr. Spiegl** a walker so he will be able to get around campus faster. I also leave **Zach Waterman** a lunch box so he can eat and study at the same time.

I, **Wilson Patton**, leave to **Mr. Spiegl** some of my HGH so he might grow a little more.

I, **Matt Anderson**, leave to **Ryan Owen** my awesome dancing skills.

I, **Ross Martin**, leave to **Jack Wagster** the ability of batting over 500.

I, **Kyle Gray**, leave to **Mr. Thurmond** my feeling of being the first person ever to be kicked out of his class.

I, **Harris Elledge**, leave to **George Swenson** the upstairs PL spot.

I, **Gabe Sharlin**, leave to **Andrew Dobbs** my super, amazing, owning swimming skills.

I, **Daniel Bellet**, leave to all the students coming into **Coach McMurray's** class the excitement that comes with his writing tips.

I, **Eric Walsh**, leave to **Mr. Spiegl** and **Christian Sargent** the totally underrated Aquarium Club.

I, **Hunter Woolwine**, leave to the **7th grade BB team** my bad scare in the air rifle championship so that you may learn of the dangers of three days without caffeine.

I, **Nathan Stinson**, leave to **Wonderful Boy** a thesaurus.

I, **Jamie Bradshaw**, leave to **Franklin Garstin** the leadership of the red-head gang.

I, **Paul Brazil**, leave to **Sam Turner** the right of dictatorship over the realm of Hill Road and the greater Crieve Hall area. I also leave **Zach Waterman** the crown to the PL room.

I, **Rett Hooper**, leave to **Tom Bu** my baseball skills

I, **Will Stephenson**, leave to **George Swenson** my amazing partner-stretching abilities in Microbe CC.

I, **Blair Griffith**, leave to **Mr. Russ's future students** the ability to invent awesome paperball-based games.

I, **Will Stewart**, leave to **Will McFadden** leadership of the Will Club.

I, **Jamie Joyce**, leave to **Andrew Einstman** the right to be fantastic.

Words of Wisdom

Parting Advice

by Joe "Studmuffin" Scherrer

As the eighth graders finish their two years in the Junior School, they feel the need to share with the seventh graders some of their infinite wisdom:

"Fear Mrs. Christeson's wrath!"
Taylor Shelly

"Throw your pencil whenever Mrs. Christeson is in sight. You won't forget it…"
Noah Fardon

"DO NOT flip your pen in Mrs. Christeson's class, or she will hit you with it. No joke!"
Adam Hobbs

"Study Latin and don't listen to Matthew Davidson."
James Kay

"Latin is a dead language. WORRY."
Tanner Yancy

"Watch what you say in assembly."
Gray Curtis

"Make a single file line in the lunch line."
Colby McBride

"Watch out for Col. Sharbel in the lunch line…"
Marshall Sorenson

"EAT WELL! It's the only way to survive the workload!"
Andrew Cho

"Wear argile socks!"
Brandon Sauermann

Take advantage of your opportunities."
Bryan Oslin

"If you're in Mr. Thurmond's class, do your homework OR ELSE!"
John Elam

"Let's all just hope you can get on Mr. T's good side…"
Preston Evans

"Never pee in Mr. Thurmond's wheaties."
Will Stewart

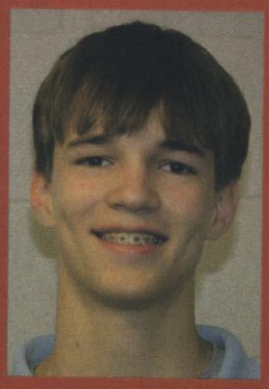
"Run really fast in track."
Chris Meluch

"Wear Under Armour instead of boxers."
Cayce Ortale

We eighth graders sincerely hope that these words of wisdom are helpful to you seventh graders.

2008-09 Honor Council Representatives

George Swenson



Daniel Mace

Jack Whitson

ENTERTAINMENT

Julius Caesar Parodies

by Matt Anderson

Antony's Funeral Speech

For the seventh graders that don't know, this speech is one of the most famous parts of Shakespeare's play. The original intro lines are "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears." Maybe he really meant. . .

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, smoking during funerals is strictly prohibited.

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, no texting in the Forum!

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, where is the nearest chamber pot?

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, will someone please restrain the drunkards in Section 3!!

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, if you are the owner of the black Suburban, you left your lights on.

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, in case of a plebeian riot, the emergency exits are to the left near the Capitol.

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, no flash photography while I'm speaking.

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, lions from the Coliseum escaped; run for your lives!

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, (microphone screech) is this thing on?

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, remember to vote for Ron-, wait this isn't a campaign rally!

*Friends, Romans, countrymen, you failed your sobriety tests!

The following is a parody of a short scene from Julius Caesar.

Enter Cinna the poet.

CINNA: I dreamt that I did drink with Caesar in hell, and mine guts were laid about the Capitol. Although I nearly wet myself with fear, foolish courage hath led me forth.

Enter the Plebeians.

FIRST PLEBEIAN: What is thy name?

SECOND PLEBEIAN: Where do you dwell?

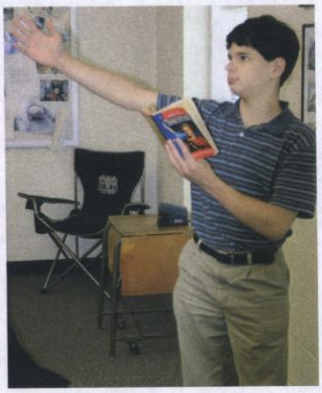
THIRD PLEBEIAN: Are you a married man or a bachelor?

FOURTH PLEBIAN: Dost thou have a shot of whiskey?

FIRST PLEBEIAN: Answer every man directly.

SECOND PLEBEIAN: Ay, and briefly.

THIRD PLEBEIAN: Ay, and wisely.



Matt Anderson finds humor in tragedy.

FOURTH PLEBEIAN: Ay, and soon, for I grow impatient.

CINNA: Inquisitive men doth make the gods groan with disgust, and curiosity digs their graves. But as to not incur the paupers' wrath, I say I am a bachelor, though I have an ex-wife.

SECOND PLEBEIAN: Thou blasphemer! Thou hath broken thy marriage vow!

CINNA: Thou art mistaken, naughty laborer, for she ran away with a cobbler on the Lupercal.

NINTH PLEBEIAN: Ay, proceed directly.

CINNA: Directly I am going to Caesar's funeral.

FIRST PLEBEIAN: As a friend or an enemy?

CINNA: If I had any thought of my life, dost thou think I would say "enemy"?

FOURTH PLEBEIAN: For your dwelling--briefly.

CINNA: Briefly, I dwell with thine mother near the Tiber.

FOURTH PLEBEIAN: Tis most pathetic. Your name, sir, truly.

CINNA: Truly, my name is Cinna.

FIRST PLEBEIAN: Rip him limb from limb! He's a conspirator!

CINNA: Did I say Cinna? I meant Aurelius.

THIRD PLEBEIAN: Do you mean to mock us with your trickery? Your mouth hath said Cinna.

"AURELIUS": Your conceptions are misleading, knave. Beggars do not question scholars, and dead men do not bother to remember if they left the oven on.

SECOND PLEBEIAN: What trade art thou, Aurelius?

ENTERTAINMENT

"AURELIUS": I don't get a paycheck if that's what you mean, but truly I am a poet.
FOURTH PLEBEIAN: Delight us with thine verses.
"AURELIUS": Death be not proud, though some have called thee, painful and sudden, although thou art so; Thou art slave to stupid men, who improve the gene pool by drinking while--
FIRST PLEBEIAN: Liar! Tis not how the poem goes!
"AURELIUS": Ay, that is true, but the original version stunk.
Enter Cinna's servant
SERVANT: By the god of Viagra, hark, there you are, Master Cinna. Your ex-wife called, she wants her curtains back.
SECOND PLEBEIAN: Ho, his name was Cinna! I knew it!
CINNA: I am not the conspirator! I am Cinna the poet! I did not kill Caesar!
FOURTH PLEBEIAN: Who cares?! His name is Cinna, so carve the name out of his heart and feed him to rabid dogs!
THIRD PLEBEIAN: Tear him for his bad verses! Some to Brutus', to Cassius', some to the others'! Show no mercy till you're sober!
Exeunt all the plebeians with begging Cinna. Laughing servant stays.

The Return of "Docta Love"

by Penn Murfee

Last week, a peer of mine stopped me in the hallway and asked me for some advice. "Hey Docta Love, I need some help with this girl I want to get together with. I keep asking her to the movies and she always says she can't go. What should I do?"

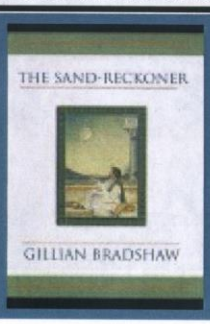
--Well, if she continually says she can't go, ask her when she can, and then tell her to call you when she is free. If it works out, GREAT! But if not, just wait for her to call you back. The worst thing you can do is keep on pestering her. This is very annoying and shows that you are desperate or a little TOO interested. All in all, my advice is to ask her once, and just wait and see if she calls you back.

Hope it works out!
--Docta Love

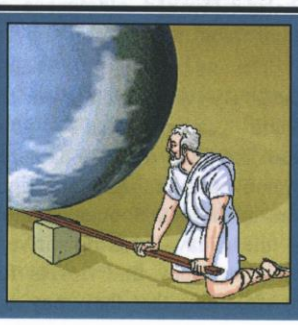
Just yesterday, I received a letter from one of my classmates. A friend of mine was just about to pop the question (asking a girl out, of course) when my other friend asked her out first. He was devastated. He told me, "I still like her, but I can't get together with her BECAUSE SHE ALREADY HAS A BOYFRIEND! How do I deal with this?"

--I'm very sorry this has happened to you, but sometimes these things happen. If I were you, I would just lay off for now and wait until they break up. Don't ask her out right away though; she might not be over the other boy yet. But, when the time is right, and you feel like it'll work out, by all means, have at it. Don't be shy around her just because she is going out with another guy.

Hope this helps!
--Docta Love



All-School Novel: *The Sand-Reckoner* by Gillian Bradshaw



OPINION PAGE

MBA Discussion Boards: Curse of the Junior School

by Rob Edwards

When I look back on my MBA Junior School career, I have many fond memories. Whether it is sports, no homework nights, good times with friends, or the numerous school bake sales, I have enjoyed myself these past two years. However, just the thought of the discussion boards turns all those wonderful things sour. Hmmm. Where to begin. . .

Whether it is the late night, pointless arguments of seventh graders or the incessant use of idiotic words like "hosslier," "nooby noob," or "7kskkthgradesucks" (I don't know what it means either), the waste of time manifested in our First Class accounts is tearing apart the reputation of the Junior School. One sad, sad example is Lost and Found. Ah, Lost and Found, a place for kids to ask for help in looking for valuables that they have misplaced. Not anymore. Now instead of helpful replies, students get about 60 replies within the hour of the post, saying things like, "haha ur a noob how did u lose ur calculator," or, "I bet Hillary Clinton took it; ask her." Yeah, it was definitely Hillary. Sorry seventh grade, but we don't need to hear your arguments about bands you only know from Guitar Hero, and no, we don't want to discuss your version of politics: "hey wat if mccain had 7 arms?" and no, this post will not last the entire year. These kids who get on the discussion board over Christmas and spring break just to argue about how long the post will last or who can get the most replies, or who got the best Wii game from Santa need to find something more productive to do with their time. By the way, 175 replies to a post doesn't give you bragging rights, no matter how "hosslier" you think you are. Again Joe Scherrer, your post will not last the entire year, so please quit trying. My advice to the seventh graders: GET OFF DISCUSSION!

Rob Edwards

You're Being Watched

by Robert Papel

Drivers these days are being watched. By what, you wonder? Roadside cameras--that's your answer. The point of these cameras is to nab speeders and red light runners in the act. Sooner or later, when these law-breaking drivers return home, they find tickets for traffic violations that they may not remember, some even months old.

Car rental companies, such as Avis or Hertz, claim that they pay the fines for their customers' tickets, but then they, in turn, bill the customer the price of the ticket and then add a processing fee. The point is that car rental companies love these traffic cameras, and they are starting to take in more profit because of their use.

Governments of towns also greatly support these cameras to raise some badly needed revenue. Some of these governments have gone as far as to reclassify red light running and speeding tickets from having to go to court to a higher fine. Also, some of them don't even put the ticket on the driver's record.

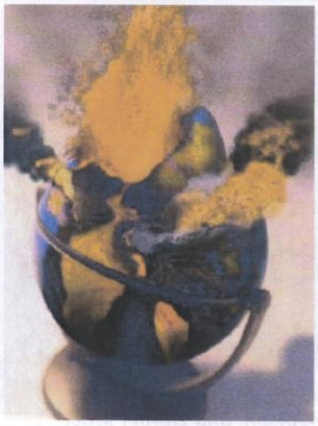
continued on page 11

Robert Papel

OPINION PAGE

THE END OF THE WORLD!! (as we know it)

by Aidan Davis



Straddling the border of France and Switzerland is the largest particle accelerator in the world, the Large Hadron Collider. It is 27 miles long along its track and costs between 5 to 10 BILLION dollars to build and operate. The goal of this accelerator is quite simple: to accelerate two streams of protons toward each other at nearly the speed of light in temperatures colder than those in space, and collide them in order to recreate the events that occurred a fraction of a second after the supposed "big bang." The collision will cause temperatures 100,000 times higher than that in the core of the sun. This collision, however, as some have feared, may cause the creation of a miniature black holes, which will swallow the Earth as a whole!

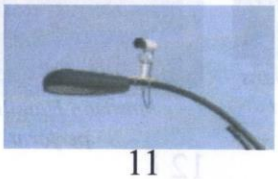
The project is to be turned on in May of this year and is considered to be the world's greatest experiment. It is expected to unravel some of the greatest mysteries in the world of physics. Among those is the existence of the Higgs-Bosen, a theoretical particle, which makes up 20% of the universe's mass in that it influences all forms of matter and makes particles heavier through its gravitational-like pull. Another theory the experiment is expected to prove is String Theory, a crucial part in the modern thinking of the universe.

Whether the results of the project are good or bad, the results will certainly alter the way physics and the world is looked upon forever.

Aidan Davis

Drivers' rights advocates, such as the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), have a different story to tell. They say that law enforcement people have gone too far with camera ticketing. Its argument is that since the cameras can document hundreds of violations in a day, law enforcement agencies don't have the manpower to process and mail the tickets.

The vice president of the IIHS states: "Between 1995 and 2005, the estimated number of vehicle miles traveled in the Unites States has increased by 23 percent, but the number of traffic law enforcement officers only grew by 12 percent. There just aren't enough officers to handle the processing."

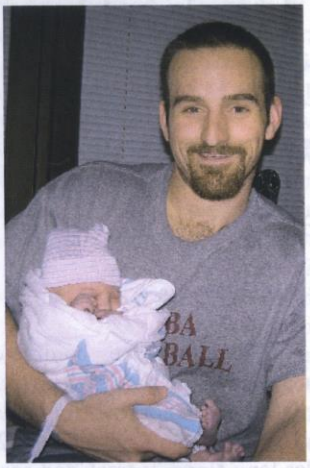


The IIHS also said, "Because speeding is common and viewed as acceptable behavior by many drivers, it is a major factor in motor vehicle crashes." The IIHS says that what's needed is better road engineering and law enforcement that concentrates on unsafe driving.

Currently, there are over 30 jurisdictions using red light cameras in 26 states, and that number is currently rising.

ON THE HILL

Alex Hagar, Jamie Bradshaw, Marshall Sorenson, Henry Richardson, Jack Whitson, and Daniel Mace are just a few of the Latin I medal winners. Congratulations to the 88 eighth grade students who received gold medals!



Mr. Barclay and daughter Allyson

Mrs. Roberts congratulates the finalists in the annual Poetry Recitation Contest:
Vince Panvini - 1st place
Noah Fardon - runner-up

Matt Anderson and Kelly Haselton get the dancing award for their performance at the eighth grade mixer!

Joe Richardson and Hayden Deakins display their mythology project on Byronysis.

Mattison Hamilton, Dr. Cassell, and Andrew Cho perform "Danny Boy" at assembly.

ON THE HILL

Junior School students cheer on the runners in the Founders Day race held on Thursday, April 24.

Jackson in action

Andy stays focused despite the candy!

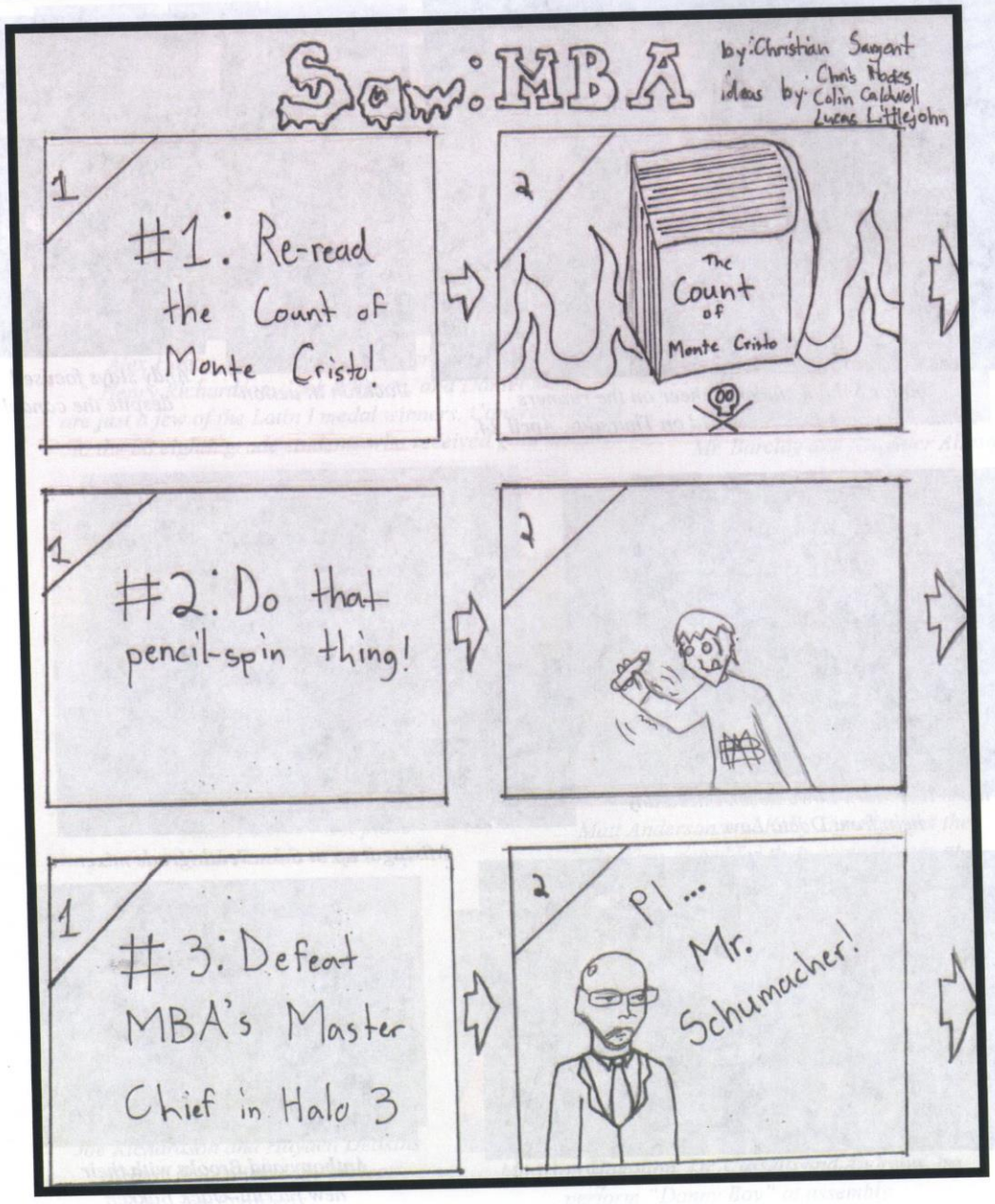
It looks like Mark Lowe doesn't need any help from Docta Love.

Mixing it up at the seventh-grade mixer

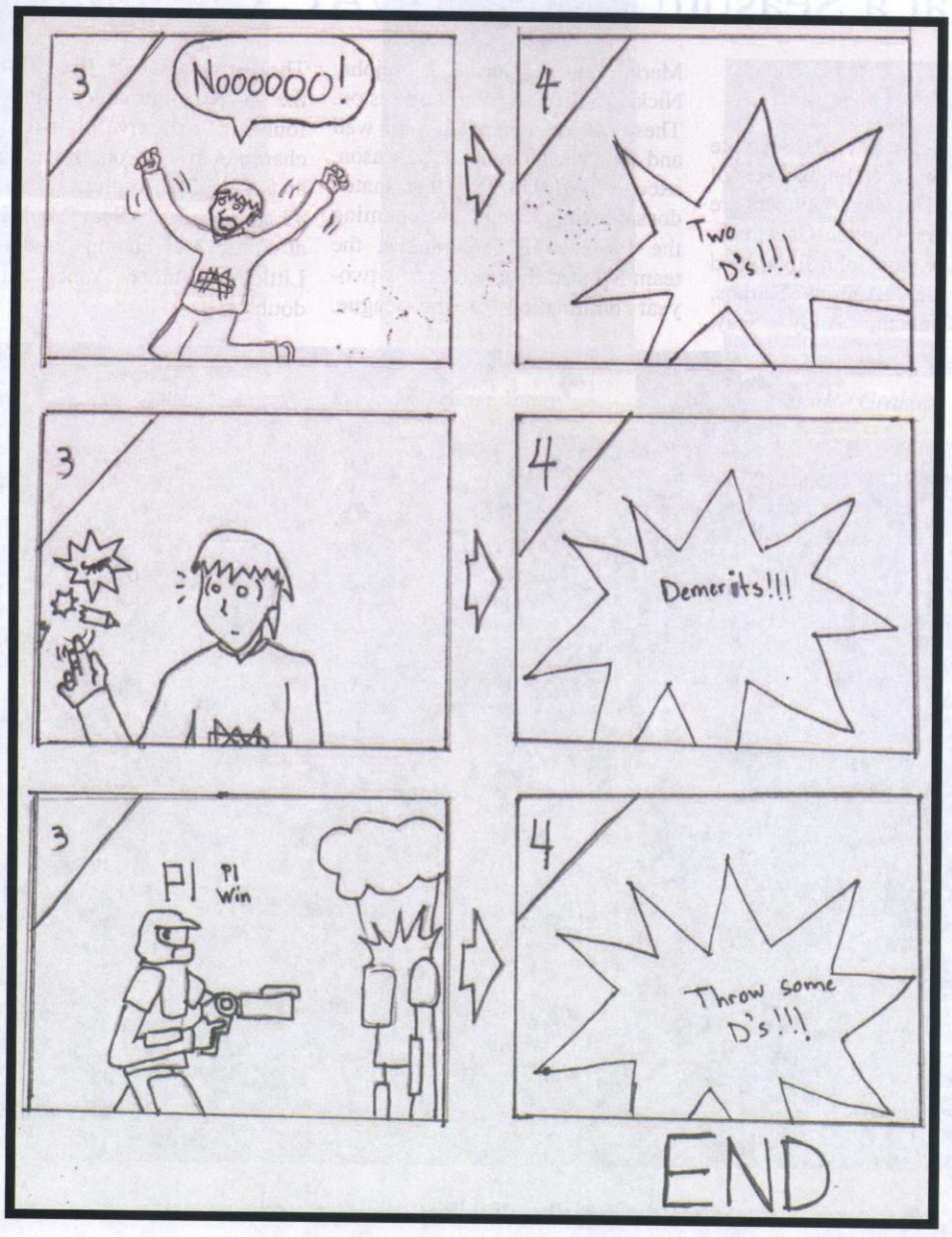
We didn't know Chandler was so strong!

Anthony and Brooks with their new recruit--Jack Bakken

COMICS. . .


Saw: MBA
by: Christian Sargent
ideas by: Chris Hodes
Colin Caldwell
Lucas Littlejohn
1
#1: Re-read the Count of Monte Cristo!
2
The Count of Monte Cristo
1
#2: Do that pencil-spin thing!
2
1
#3: Defeat MBA's Master Chief in Halo 3
2
Pl...
Mr. Schumacher!

BY CHRISTIAN



TENNIS

What a Season! Repeat HVAC Champions

by John Elam

This year was quite successful for the Junior School tennis team. The team members are eighth graders Connor Gawaluck, Tanner Yancy, and John Elam, and seventh graders Andrew Karpos, Andrew Graham, Andy Seay, Mark Lowe, Lucas Littlejohn, Nick Fletcher, and Parrish Preston. These players competed very well and achieved an undefeated season, except for MUS, but that match doesn't really count! By claiming the 1st-place HVAC plaque, the team boosted themselves to a two-year domination of the league. They out-pointed BA 13-8 in the HVAC tournament and won four out of the five divisions. The champions are Connor Gawaluck at #2 singles, Andrew Graham at #3 singles, Andy Seay/Mark Lowe at #1 doubles champs, and Lucas Littlejohn/Tanner Yancy at #2 doubles.

Coach Sean Kinch and his mighty Microbes!

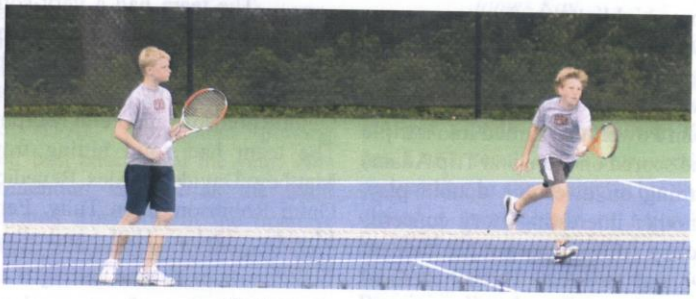
TENNIS

Andrew Karpos

Tanner Yancy

Andrew Graham

Connor Gawaluck



Mark Lowe and Andy Seay

HVAC ALL-SPORTS CHAMPIONS-- FOUR CONSECUTIVE YEARS!

Congratulations to all the Microbe athletes and coaches for another outstanding year.

BASEBALL

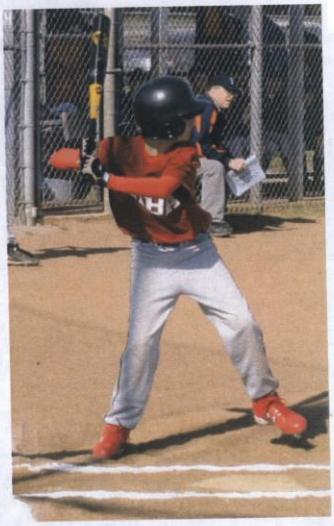
Future Stars

by Ross Martin

The B baseball team had a successful season, finishing three games over five hundred at 6-3. The team was led by Coaches Pettus, Howell, and McFadden. There were several nicknames on the team, including Quint Robinson who was called "Q" and "Cinco." John Powell was simply called "Powell," John Tully "Tul," Robby Mills "Phil," and Will Narramore "Narry." Some highlights of the season were Matthew Davidson's throwing out a player from Brentwood Academy stealing second base, a bomb from John Powell that turned into a triple and scored one run, and Trip Adams turning an awesome double play. Another interesting story concerns Robby Mills, who bought himself a brand new bat which he talked about getting the whole season, and in the very last game, he nailed one into the left field gap.

Coaches Howell, McFadden, and Pettus congratulate the team on their victory over Brentwood Academy.

The team had a very solid infield led by Dylan Hall, Penn Murphy, and Ross Martin. The pitching was led by Dallas Gibson, Quint Robinson, and Penn Murphy. The team had solid hitting from Matthew Davidson, Alex Benedict, Quint Robinson, John Tully, Penn Murphy, Dylan Hall, and Ross Martin.



John Tully

Alex Benedict

Quint Robinson

Ross Martin

BASEBALL

A-Team Excitement

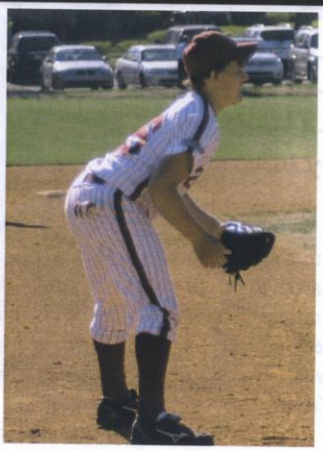
by Holt Akers-Campbell

The Big Red Microbe A baseball team began play the first week of March in the Cougar Classic Tournament. With temperatures sometimes in the teens, the team struggled to produce offensively at times, finishing the tournament with a 2-2 record. The highlight of the first week was a grand slam by James Kay in an 18-4 victory over the DuPont Middle School Bulldogs. Other games in the tournament included losses to Friendship Christian and Nashville Catholic, and a one-run win over West End in extra innings. The first game of the regular season was an away contest against HVAC foe BGA. Alex Kohls picked up the win on the mound as the Big Red came away with a 6-1 victory. There were many other highlights of the regular season. Another great pitching performance from Alex Kohls led to a 12-1 victory over rival Ensworth. Effective pitching from Brooks Best and James Kay's homerun, one of six he had during the season, lifted MBA over Woodland (9-2). Great all around play resulted in a 10-4 pounding of Grassland, and the reliable pitching of Lawson Factor contributed to a blowout of FRA. The last game of the regular season was played against CPA at Warner Parks. This was an important game for the seeding in the HVAC tournament. The Big Red responded with a 14-2 victory in which the team had a season high 18 hits! This win improved our overall record to 8-8 and our HVAC record to 4-2.

Conry Miler

The Microbes went into the HVAC tournament playing their best baseball of the year. This momentum showed as the team defeated Ensworth in the opening round 10-0. The following day, the Big Red headed to Brentwood Academy to face the Eagles in the semifinals. After getting down early in the game, the squad fought back thanks to two big hits by Alex Kohls and another home run by James Kay. The score was tied going into the last inning when BA got a walk-off hit to win the game as a result of a controversial call earlier in the inning. This loss closed a great season of Microbe baseball. Our team included a great pitching staff of Alex Kohls, Vince Panvini, Brooks Best, Lawson Factor, Conry Miler, Holt Akers-Campbell, and Jody Gorham; two outstanding catchers, Clay Sullivan and Franklin Garston; utility players who sparked the team with their hits, great defensive play, and speed, Jack Beckner, Chris Norman, Will Campbell, Wilson Johnson, and John Bachman; and heavy hitters, James Kay, Dobbs Richards, and Henry Beveridge. With so many talented seventh graders returning next year, the 2009 season looks to be a good one. Thanks to the great staff of Coaches Colquitt and Pierce and manager John Wheeler.

Lawson Factor



James Kay

TRACK

Courage and Guts

by Joe Barry

This season for track was quite successful and fun for all of the participants. We were a dominant, unified team. Throughout the season, our only real competition was Brentwood Academy and Ensworth.

We had great contributors in every event, the main reason for our success. Bryan Oslin and Ryland Close starred in the 100m, hurdles, and long jump. Our 800m leaders were David Arteaga, Noah Fardon, and Daniel Mace; Tate Ramsden, Alex Smith, and Myles Anderson dominated the 1600m. Daniel Bellet and Warren Lipscomb were the capable pole-vaulters. Harris Elledge, Charlie Steere, and Nate Greene were our shot putters and competed successfully.

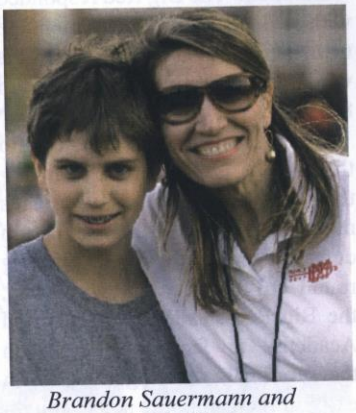
We capped off a very fun and successful undefeated season by winning the HVAC Tournament. Everyone came out and worked hard daily, another key to our success. We all wanted to get better and worked hard to improve.

I asked Coach Russell to answer a few questions about our season.

1) How did you feel after this season?

Proud and inspired . . .I was extremely proud of the entire team at the end of the season. The team met each challenge at practice and in the meets with 100% of their ability. In the HVAC championship meet, each runner finished the season with a time equaling or bettering his previous personal record. Win or lose, you can't ask for more out of a group of boys. A coach from another team described the MBA squad as "running with courage and guts." I was inspired by how our boys put all they had into each race. It is a privilege to coach such dedicated young men. They made me and the other coaches better because of the personal goals they set for themselves and because of the way they went about accomplishing those goals.

Daniel Bellet



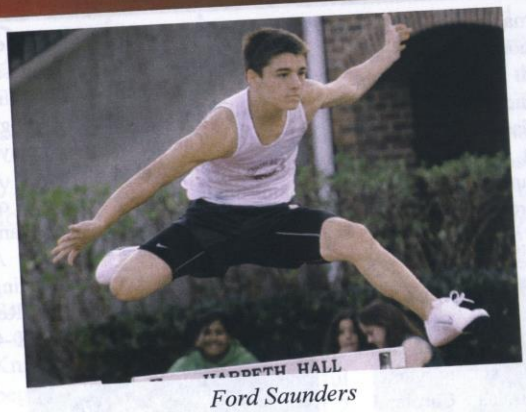
Brandon Sauermann and Coach Mom

David Arteaga

2)What were some "high" points in this season?

The leadership of the eighth graders was the best I have seen. These boys arrived at practice ready to do whatever it took to get better for the hour and a half that we were on the track. They held each other accountable during stretching, warm ups, and workouts. Seeing them set the tone for the team was very

TRACK



Ford Saunders

Warren Lipscomb

rewarding. Their positive attitudes will serve them long after they have finished competing in track.

Bryan Oslin's record-breaking success in the 110 hurdles was also great fun. He pushed himself in each meet after having a set back during spring break. Returning to track practice with two broken thumbs and a severe concussion was not what he wanted to happen to him, but he persevered and had a wonderful season.

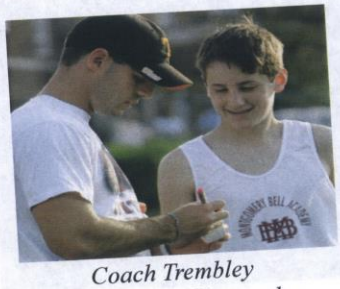
Bryan teamed with Ryland Close and together competed in twelve events during the HVAC championship. They will make a great force as freshmen.

Likewise, the strong chemistry between David Arteaga, Daniel Mace, and Noah Fardon was a wonderful highlight for the season. They are great competitors whom we will miss next year. I foresee their winning a state championship in the 4x800m.

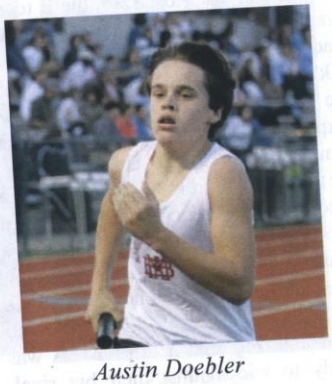
3) What do you feel was accomplished this season?

We improved; we had fun; we were honorable. Winning is a great by-product of these goals and makes the season all the more fun, but you can't win every time you set foot on the track. You can always get better, have fun, and do it with integrity. We set out to improve as people and as athletes. We accomplished those goals. In the HVAC Championship meet, we happened to score more points than our opponents in the finals. Had we outscored the other teams but not improved, not had fun, and not been honest about it, I would not feel that we had accomplished anything.

John Bradshaw



Coach Trembley and Warren Lipscomb



Austin Doebler

Track photos by Kats Barry

LACROSSE

A Winning Season

by Nicholas Green

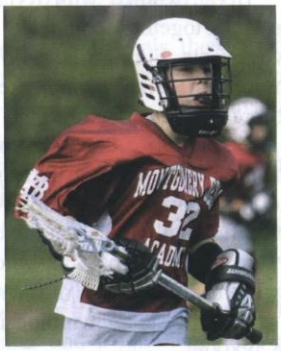
The seventh-grade lacrosse team had an exciting season, going 12 and 8. With little experience on the team, the Big Red had a lot of work to do the first weeks of practice. In the first game, they played the Webb School. Webb was demolished by the Big Red 7-0 with Michael Piana scoring the first goal of the season for MBA. In the next game, against the Woodland Warriors, MBA suffered a 6-2 loss. The Big Red gained more experience in the next practices and then faced a tough Franklin team. A very exciting game ended up being a disappointing loss for the Big Red losing 4-3 in overtime to the Knights. After losing two away games in a row, MBA wanted to stop the streak at home against very good Hendersonville A and B teams. To play both teams, the Big Red split into an A and B team with Todd Baker, who played in the A game as a defender, playing as a goalie for the B team. After the A team lost 12-3, the B team wanted revenge on Hendersonville and won 4-1 with Coach Schumacher, a.k.a. Master Chief, coaching. Next up were the East Cobb Roosters, an experienced team from Atlanta. Whit Emerson had the highlight of the day as he took the ball from his defensive zone into Rooster territory and scored. Even though this goal lifted our hopes, the team lost 6-1. After a game at Harding Academy, the Big Red next played the USN Tigers, who beat MBA 3-6 with their amazing stick skills. MBA was ready to win against their big rival, McCallie. The Big Red got a good lead on the Blue Tornado and ended the half 5-1. The final score was 8-3 with a win for the Big Red. MBA next faced the Nashville Catholic Youth Lacrosse team. This was a disappointing game as the Big Red got demolished 7-0. MBA's momentum turned around, and the team played a great game against MUS. At the end of four quarters, MUS and the Big Red were tied 2-2. The game went into two overtimes, The intensity of the game was at its highest peak when MUS scored, and the Big Red lost an exciting game.

In the Nicholas Caroland Tournament, MBA first played J.T. Moore and won 7-1. In the championship game, the team played Hendersonville. The Big Red also did well in this game, winning 5-2 and thus winning the own tournament. In the next game against Ensworth, the Big Red had a leash on the Tigers 4-1 right before the half. However, Ensworth scored 3 goals to make the score 5-4. The Big Red defense and goalie stood tall and helped beat the Tigers 5-4. In the McCallie Tournament, the first game was against McCallie, and MBA won 5-1. Their second game was against a very tough Lassiter team and the Big Red lost 8-2. The final tournament game was against a weak Darlington team; the Big Red cremated them 12-0 and got 2nd place in the tournament.

In the Middle Tennessee Lacrosse Tournament, MBA's first game was against Grassland, ending in a 9-1 victory. Then, the Big Red played Woodland and defeated them 9-1. In the semi-finals, the Big Red shut out Franklin 8-0. The championship game was against Harding Academy. At first, the game was very challenging, but in the second half, the Big Red picked up speed and won 10-4.

Ryan Flack

James Higgins



David Maynard

7th grade lacrosse photos by Faye Maynard

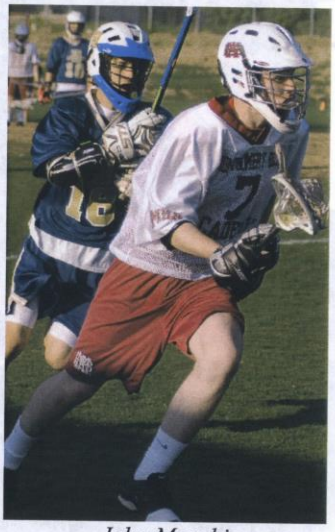
LACROSSE

Dominating Champions

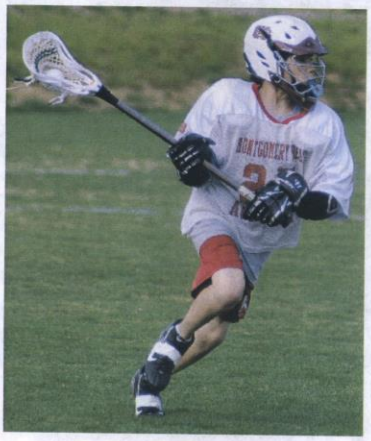
by Aaron Ardisson and Hayden Holliman

The eighth-grade lacrosse team started the season off with a good win against the Franklin Knights. This win was only the beginning of a very successful season, with a record of 17 and 2 and scoring a total of over 130 goals. The season finished up on Saturday, May 3rd, with the team's winning the Middle Tennessee Lacrosse tournament at Crocket Park. The team dominated the competition throughout the day after the tournament was threatened by rain. During the tournament the eighth graders beat Ensworth (*twice*), Grassland, and Brentwood. After beating Ensworth in the first game, the Microbes moved on to beat Brentwood and then Grassland in the semi-finals to put them in the Championship game against Ensworth. The team finished out the season strong by beating Ensworth in the Championship game 11-3.

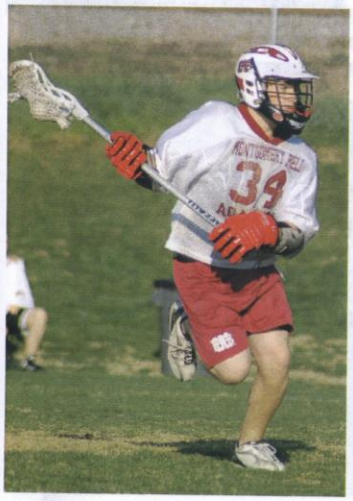
8th grade lacrosse photos by Dr. Bob Hoover



John Morphis

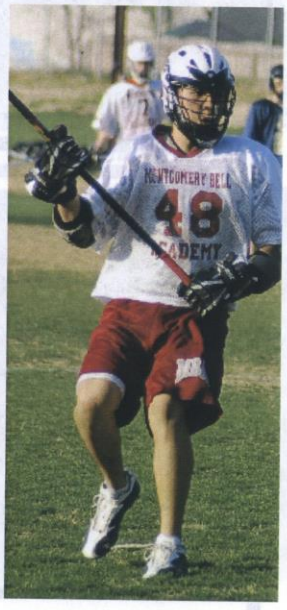


Robert Hoover



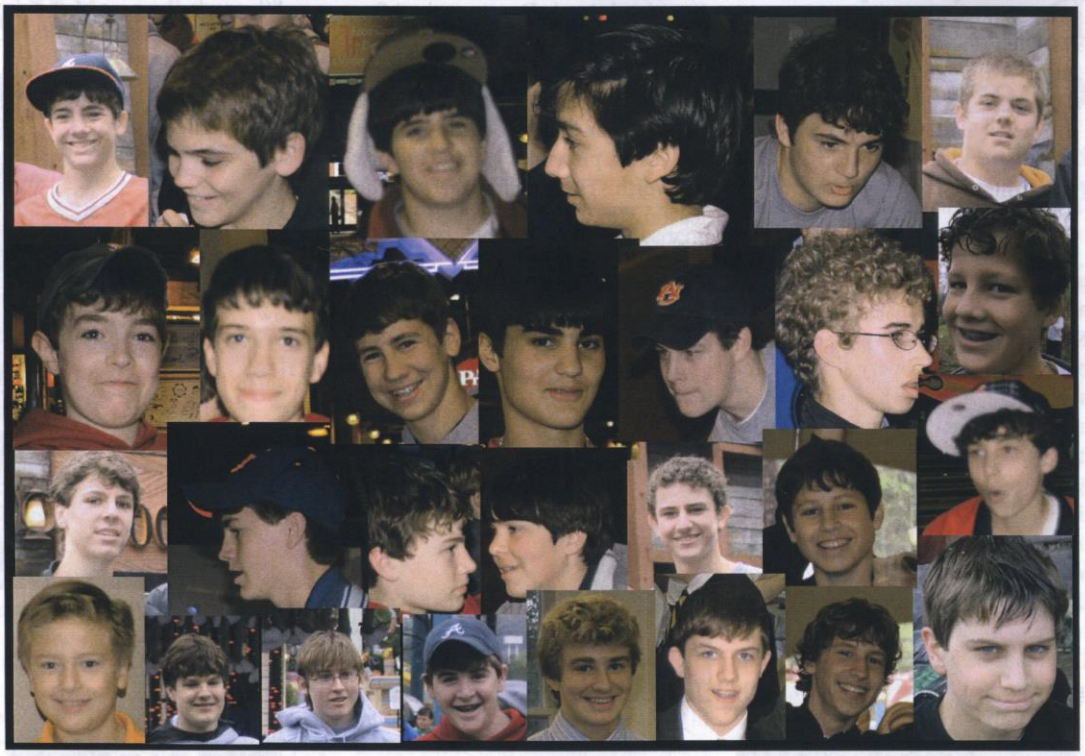
Hayden Holliman

Clay Cauble



Zach Chen

THE BACK PAGE



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